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PATENT  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Brown et al.
Application No.:	09/197,278
Filed:	November 20, 1998
For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent
Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
Group Art Unit:	3731

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-6769

#27

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Bui  
FACSIMILE NO.: 703-746-3302  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3731  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): 18

DATE: February 26, 2003  
TIME: 3:41 pm

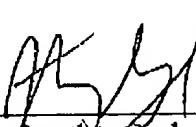
Per your facsimile of February 26, 2003, following please find a copy of the 4 page Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; 1 page modified PTO Form 1449; copy of 1 reference; 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter filed via facsimile on February 18, 2003 and the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission received from the USPTO on February 18, 2003.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date: February 26, 2003

By:   
Jonathan Grad  
Reg. No. 41,795

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000  
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185  
Telephone: (952) 563-3000  
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

## Certificate of Transmission

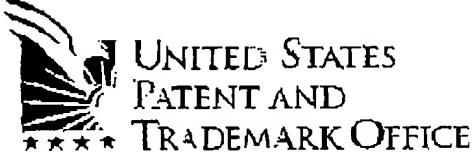
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-746-3302, on February 26, 2003.

Signature: Rebecca M. Painschab  
Rebecca M. Painschab

TO: Auto-reply fax to 9525633001 COMPANY:

1056 169939

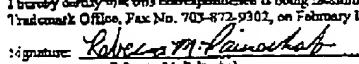
## Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission



TO: Fax Sender at 9525633001  
 Fax Information  
 Date Received: 2/18/03 5:07:09 PM [Eastern Standard Time]  
 Total Pages: 15 (including cover page)

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Received  
Cover  
Page  
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02/18/03 16:14 FAX 9525633001		VIDAS ARRETT STEINKRAUS	02/18/03												
PATENT															
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE															
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">RE Application No:</td> <td>Brown et al</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applicant Name:</td> <td>09/197,276</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filed:</td> <td>November 20, 1998</td> </tr> <tr> <td>For:</td> <td>Improved Longitudinally Flexible Reproductive Sheath</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner:</td> <td>Vy Q. Bui</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit:</td> <td>3731</td> </tr> </table>				RE Application No:	Brown et al	Applicant Name:	09/197,276	Filed:	November 20, 1998	For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Reproductive Sheath	Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui	Group Art Unit:	3731
RE Application No:	Brown et al														
Applicant Name:	09/197,276														
Filed:	November 20, 1998														
For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Reproductive Sheath														
Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui														
Group Art Unit:	3731														
		Docket No: 8433-6709													
FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER															
TO: Examiner Bui		DATE: February 18, 2003													
FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9302		TIME: 4:00 pm													
GROUP ART UNIT: 3731															
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): 15															
<p>Following please find a 4 page Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; 1 page modified PTO Form 1449; copy of 1 reference; 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.</p> <p>If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees.</p>															
Respectfully Submitted,															
VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.															
June: February 18, 2003		By:  Rebecca M. Paluszak Reg. No. 41,195													
<p>6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000 Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185 Telephone: (651) 563-3000 Facsimile: (651) 563-3001</p> <p>Certificate of Transmission: I hereby certify that correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9302, on February 18, 2003.</p> <p>Signature:  Rebecca M. Paluszak</p>															

Received from &lt;9525633001&gt; at 2/26/03 4:47:42 PM [Eastern Standard Time]

02/26/03 15:47 FAX 9525633001

VIDAS ARRETT STEINKRAUS  
VIDAS ARRETT STEINKRAUS

003

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\*\*\* TX REPORT \*\*\*  
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TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 2079  
CONNECTION TEL  
SUBADDRESS  
CONNECTION ID  
ST. TIME 02/18 16:14  
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PGS. SENT 15  
RESULT OK

1071169940

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:	Brown et al
Application No.:	09/197,278
Filed:	November 20, 1998
For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent
Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
Group Art Unit:	3731

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-6769

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Bui  
FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9302  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3731  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): 15

DATE: February 18, 2003  
TIME: 4:00 p.m.

Following please find a 4 page Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; 1 page modified PTO Form 1449; copy of 1 reference; 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees.

Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

By:

  
Jonathan Grad

Date: February 18, 2003

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Brown et al.
Application No.:	09/197,278
Filed:	November 20, 1998
For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent
Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
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Commissioner for Patents  
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TO: Examiner Bui  
FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9302  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3731  
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): 15

DATE: February 18, 2003  
TIME: 4:00 p.m.

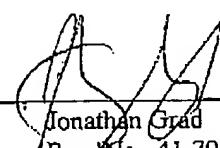
Following please find a 4 page Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement; 1 page modified PTO Form 1449; copy of 1 reference; 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

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Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date: February 18, 2003

By:   
Jonathan Grad  
Reg. No. 41,795

609 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000  
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185  
Telephone: (952) 563-3000  
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

## Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9302, on February 18, 2003.

Signature: Rebecca M. Painschab  
Rebecca M. Painschab

## PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Brian J. Brown, Michael Davis, David Friesen, Timothy J. Ley and Sean P. Skubitz
Application No.:	09/197278
Filed:	November 20, 1998
For:	IMPROVED LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE EXPANDABLE STENT
Examiner:	Vy Q. Bui
Group Art Unit:	3731

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2B-6769-US

SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 and/or a copy of a PTO-892 form is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. patent, foreign patent and U.S. patent application is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98, *except that* U.S. applications from which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120, and documents cited in such priority applications, may be omitted from the enclosures pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d). Applicant's submission of copies of U.S. applications does not constitute a waiver of the confidentiality of such applications. As such, **Applicant requests that any copies of unpublished US applications submitted herewith be excluded from the file wrapper pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.14.**

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 or PTO-892 from a prior application is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

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Page 2

*Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement*  
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-6769-US

Applications that are listed on the accompanying modified form 1449 as related by priority are related by priority claim under 35 USC §120. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(d), no copies of cited art in a previous application(s) to which priority was claimed need be submitted. Applicant is providing copies of the 1449 and/or 892 forms from these cases.

X I. This statement qualifies as a no-fee Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) or otherwise because to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney it is being filed (check all that apply):

- (1) within 3 months of the filing date of the application (other than a CPA); or
- (2) within 3 months of entry of the national stage; or
- (3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits;
- (4) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114;
- (5) as part of a continued prosecution application (CPA); or
- (6) during the period of a suspension of action for a CPA under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(b).

       II. This statement is believed to require a fee or the submission of a certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (c) or otherwise. If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application (other than CPA); (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; (4) the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114; or (5) after the filing of a request for a continued prosecution application, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

- (1) a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; or
- (2) a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

*Application No. 09/197278*  
*Page 3*

*Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement*  
*Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-6769-US*

III. *37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).* If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

- (1) a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is completed below; and
- (2) a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

X *IV. Fee Authorization.* If any fee is due for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and full payment has not been submitted herewith, regardless of which boxes have been checked above, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

*If paragraph II.1 or III is checked, also check one of the paragraphs below*

       I hereby certify, under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the date of the filing of this information disclosure statement.

       I hereby certify, under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2), that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

*For the purpose of this certification, Applicant considers the PCT International Search Authority to constitute a foreign patent office.*

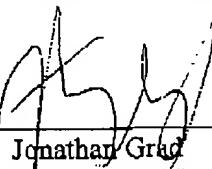
Application No. 09/197278  
Page 4

*Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement*  
*Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-6769-US*

If this Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement has been submitted without the appropriate box checked, Applicant requests that this Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be considered nevertheless if it is timely submitted under any of the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 or otherwise. Finally, if any petition is necessary to ensure consideration of this Seventh Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant requests that this be treated as such a petition.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

By: 

Jonathan Gray  
Registration No.: 41795

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000  
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185  
Telephone: (952) 563-3000  
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001  
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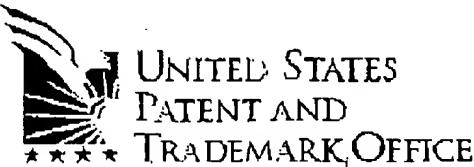
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USPTO-&gt;

9525633001 RightFAX

Page 081

TO: Auto-reply fax to 9525633001 COMPANY:

1037 160790  
156 160791**Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission**

TO:

Fax Sender at 9525633001

Fax Information

Date Received:

10/1/02 4:56:29 PM [Eastern Daylight Time]

Total Pages:

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Page  
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10/01/02 15:02 FAX 9525633001		VIDAS ARRETT STEINKRAUS	002
PATENT			
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			
<p>In Re Application No.: Brown et al.</p> <p>Application No.: 09/197,278</p> <p>Dated: November 20, 1998</p> <p>For: Improved Unigenitally Flexible Expendable Seal</p> <p>Examiner: Vy Q. Bui</p> <p>Group Art Unit: 3731</p>			
BOX 828 Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		Docket No.: 563.2-676	
<p><b>FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER</b></p> <p>TO: Examiner Bui FACSIMILE NO.: 703-672-9303 GROUP ART UNIT: 3731 TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 15</p> <p>DATE: October 1, 2002 TIME: 4:00 PM</p> <p>Following please find a 1 page Request for Continuation-Examination; 3 page Amendment; Marked-up Proposed Figs. 2, 3, 7, 8, &amp; 11; Proposed Figs 2, 3, 7, 8, &amp; 11; and Factual-Technical Letter.</p> <p><b>CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME</b></p> <p>This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter referable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.</p> <p>If any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, or any other fee, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 33-0330. Please credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0330.</p> <p>Respectfully Submitted,</p> <p>VIDAS, ARRETT &amp; STEINKRAUS, P.A.</p> <p>By: <i>Rebecca M. Palmer</i> Rebecca M. Palmer Reg. No. 41,791</p> <p>Date: October 1, 2002</p> <p>6109 Blue Chip Drive, Suite 2000 Minneapolis, MN 55431-9185 Telephone: (612) 563-3000 Facsimile: (612) 563-3001</p> <p>Certification of Transmission I hereby certify that the correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-672-9303, on October 1, 2002.</p> <p>Signature: <i>Rebecca M. Palmer</i> Rebecca M. Palmer</p> <p>Received from &lt;9525633001&gt; at 2/20/03 12:14:02 PM [Eastern Standard Time]</p>			